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Senate

(Legislative day of Monday, June 5, 1995)

The Senate met at 9:15 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Gracious God, there are five vandalizing words that confuse, hurt, and deplete. We hear these words spoken carelessly; we have said or thought them ourselves. These five words, "It won't make any difference!" cause discouragement, cut the slender thread of hope, and give us that bottomless inner feeling of frustration.

And then we come to prayer and we hear Your voice sounding in our souls, encouraging us to believe that we can make a difference. Help us to realize that You have all power and are ready to use us in the challenging relationships and heavy responsibilities we carry in the work of government.

We thank You that You have given us work to do that can be an expression of our worship of You. We have the privilege of spending our working hours in crucial matters that will make a difference for the future of America. Our work is not wasted, insignificant, or useless.

Today, as another week draws to a close and weariness threatens to invade, awaken us to the privilege of a new day filled with opportunities to serve You in our work. The vital telecommunications legislation is before us. Thank You for the care of Senators and staffs in drafting it and for thoughtful discussion and debate of it. Give us a fresh burst of enthusiasm. Help us to make our motto today five words of determination, "We are making a difference!" In the Name of Him whose grace has made all the difference. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting majority leader is recognized.

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, for the information of my colleagues, this morning the Senate will immediately resume consideration of S. 652, the telecommunications bill.

Amendments are pending to the bill. Therefore, Senators should be aware that rollcall votes are expected throughout the day today and possibly as early as 10 a.m.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPETITION AND DEREGULATION ACT

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of S. 652, the telecommunications bill, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 652) to provide for a pro-competitive, deregulatory national policy framework designed to accelerate rapidly private sector deployment of advanced telecommunications and information technologies and services to all Americans by opening all telecommunications markets to competition, and for other purposes.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

Pending:

Dole amendment No. 1255, to provide additional deregulation of telecommunications services, including rural and small cable TV systems.

Dorgan modified amendment No. 1264, to require Department of Justice approval for regional Bell operating company entry into long distance services, based on the VIII(c) standard.

Thurmond modified amendment No. 1265 (to amendment No. 1264), to provide for the review by the Attorney General of the United States of the entry of the Bell operating companies into interexchange telecommunications and manufacturing markets.

Hollings/Daschle amendment No. 1266, to clarify the requirements a Bell operating company must satisfy before being permitted to offer long distance services.

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. THOMAS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 1265, AS MODIFIED, TO
AMENDMENT NO. 1264, AS MODIFIED

Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, we now resume the discussion of S. 652, in particular the amendment before us, which is, as I understand it, the second-degree amendment offered by the Senator from South Carolina to the amendment from the Senator from North Dakota; is that correct?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct.

Mr. KERREY. I have not yet read, or we have not yet seen the amendment from the distinguished Senator from South Carolina. But I am going to make some presumptions here that I understand in general terms what it is about. I think in that amendment, there is a possibility of a compromise here, something that could satisfy both sides and get us to a point where we have a bill where we are going to get large numbers of people rather than a relatively smaller number of people supporting the legislation.

I believe that S. 652 in its current form, unamended, is not good for the American consumer. I will make it

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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